

**Students swarm to  
Sex with Sue  
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Bedouin Soundclash  
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**Tons of fun at the  
SGA/AGE Funspiel  
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# LAMBDA

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## Holiday Celebration!!!



Matthew Desrosiers / LAMBDA

With the holiday season upon us, the students of the UC/SSR residence gathered together for their annual semi-formal on Saturday, November 20th, for one last gathering before exams. Hundreds of students took part in the annual event.

## SNOLAB partners open newly expanded facility

BY LAURA THERRIEN  
SCIENCE & TECH EDITOR

It is the infamous scientific question: what is matter?

For neutrinos, matter is almost transparent and has very little bearing. For people, matter consists of the materials that make up the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory's (SNO) new \$10M surface research centre. The new project named SNOLAB, held its official grand opening on Friday November 25, and Laurentian University was among several proud members who helped

make this project possible. Participants in the event included some of Canada's top scientists, government representatives and six universities from across the country.

The 33,000-square-foot building is an extension of the existing research facilities at Inco's Creighton Mine and is the deepest laboratory in the world created specifically for the study of neutrinos. It includes an expansion of the SNO underground laboratory space by nearly 150 percent, and a brand new surface building where scientists

and students can develop and maintain experiments in particle physics.

"We want a facility that attracts people from around the world to come to Sudbury," said David Sinclair, director of SNO-LAB.

The research conducted at SNO has attracted international interest from top scientists and is operated by a 100-member team from Canada, United States and the United Kingdom. Through a unique telescope built 2,000 meters underground, scientists

(continued on page 8)

## Laurentian professor concerned with loss of dietary supplement program

BY MATTHEW DESROSIER

LAMBDA CONTRIBUTOR

To eat or not to eat, that is the question. At least, that is the question being asked by those who rely on the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) and Ontario Works (OW) as a means of survival every month. The Ontario government, beginning with the Mike Harris government back in 1995, made several cuts to social assistance. Now it is to the point where some people cannot make their monthly rent or afford a proper diet.

The Special Dietary Supplement is a program through which, with the approval of a medical professional, applicants can receive up to \$250 in extra funds on their social assistance checks. It was designed for those who require a special diet, as defined by a medical professional, so that they could afford to feed themselves accordingly. The problem, advocates of the program suggest, was that people were not aware of the existence of this supplement. Anti-Poverty activists stepped up and began a campaign to bring this supplement to the masses of starving ODSP and OW recipients. They sent out information packages, directing people to the hunger clinics, where sympathetic medical professionals would be able to fill out their forms. Thousands of new applicants began receiving the supplement. According to the Ontario Coalition Against Poverty (OCAP), in Toronto alone, over 10,000 people signed up for the program thanks to their efforts. Prior to this, there had only been 2,000 people signed up before in all of Ontario.

Due to the resounding success of OCAP's efforts, the government began accusing anti-poverty groups of abusing the system, which eventually led to them making changes in the program.

"Any talk of exploitation or abuse of the system I find perplexing," said Dr. Gary Kinsman, a sociology professor at Laurentian. "People are actually starting to use this provision that they didn't know about before: I think that any ideas of abuse are simply in the minds of government officials. If social assistance rates weren't so low, people would not be clamoring to get the supplement."

Originally, in order to receive the supplement all that was required was a medical professional to sign the form and designate how much money should be awarded. As of November 18th of this year, they now must divulge the applicant's entire medical history to social workers for examination in order for them to judge how much extra support the applicant needs. This is a breach of the applicant's rights to confidentiality. When asked about the changes, Dr. Kinsman said that "the privacy complaint [needs] to be taken seriously. It is potentially very dangerous grounds for discrimination. The clearest example being with people who suffer from HIV/AIDS."

Furthermore, the amount of money received was also cut back. The only way to receive the full amount of \$240 (cut back from \$250) is if the applicant has a disease such as HIV/AIDS or Cancer, and has lost more than 10% of their body weight due to the illness.

Those who are already receiving the supplement will come under review in the next few months, to re-evaluate how much support they will be receiving, if any at all. In Sudbury, it is expected that many will be cut off altogether from the program, because they do not fall into any of the new categories that have been set up to organize the distribution of funds. Dr. Kinsman explained that, "If you don't have one of the medical conditions on the list, you won't get any money from the supplement. The government is essentially taking money away from poor people who need it to eat."

Anti-Poverty activists in Sudbury have begun to vigorously protest the changes made to the supplement program.

"Basically we're giving the government a choice," said Kinsman. "Either they re-institute the special dietary supplement as it was before, or else they're going to have to raise the social assistance rates by 40% [to undo the cuts made by Harris in 1995]."

On November 14th, protestors rallied outside of local MPP and cabinet minister Rick Bartolucci's office in an attempt to show their anger at his involvement. The police showed up and made one arrest, which only succeeded in bringing more media attention to the activists and their message that they were shouting over their megaphones. In Toronto, people from all over Southern Ontario gathered to protest as well, showing that all of Ontario is outraged at the latest move by the Ontario Liberal regime.

The issue at the heart of the battle over the dietary supplement is poverty, activists suggest. They point out that people cannot afford to eat properly with the amount they currently receive from social assistance. According to the activists, when the dietary supplement campaign came along to help the poor receive as much support as possible from the government, not only did the government attack the integrity of those organizations who were involved, but also the impoverished of Ontario by once again taking away from their social assistance. The only way the government will listen is if everyone, not just those directly affected by these changes, takes a stand against them, they activists note, adding that the line must be drawn.



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Include your full name and student number. Please keep articles to a maximum of 700 words. Lambda reserves the right to edit for content considered sexist, racist, homophobic, heterosexist, for length, or legal purposes. Letters of a harassing or slanderous nature will be dealt with by the proper authorities.

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Please e-mail submissions to lambda@laurentian.ca. Ensure the file is saved as TEXT or Word, as other files may not be transferable to Mac format. To be considered for print, all submissions must have your name and student number.

# EDITOR'S CORNER

## Best wishes for the holiday

**EDITORIAL**

I'm sure if we all made a list of things we really want this holiday season, it would include good marks on our exams and more money for tuition. Ironing, isn't it, that the time of year we dread (exam time) and the time of year that we love (Christmas break) tend to fall around the same time.

I mean, it can really be distracting trying to take in all the seasonal events while maintaining focus on our studies. I know I have a long list of Christmas parties to attend in the coming weeks, some final essays to touch up and even a few exams to prepare for. But the light at the end

of the tunnel is nearing, and soon we will all be able to enjoy a little break from the books.

Christmas break marks an important occasion in the school year: the mid-way point. That's right, after the holidays are done, we are half-way home. Seems like only yesterday we headed back to school, and yet here we are. (Personally, I believe essays are responsible for the erasing days upon days of our lives without our realizing it... but maybe I'm just being paranoid.)

Whatever the case, my advice to you is to enjoy a good break, be safe, and get ready to come back full of vigour for

another semester. Sometimes staring at the end of the tunnel can become too entrancing, and the effort level can slip as you rush headlong towards the end of the school year. Take some time for yourself this holiday season to recharge the batteries, but be prepared to return refreshed to hit the books once more.

The end of the school year will come soon enough, but it will only be worthwhile if you achieve your goals.

- Neil Zacharjewicz  
Editor-In-Chief  
lambda@laurentian.ca

## Election offers an opportunity to make tuition fees an issue

Ah, November; that magical time of year where you would be able to see the end of the semester in sight if your eyes weren't so bleary from staying up all night in front of a computer or in a lab. I imagine that you are all feeling a bit like zombies right now, so I'll apologize in advance for trying to cram more information in!

I wanted to begin by letting you know the results of the survey we did on tuition. Not surprisingly, an overwhelming majority of you voted in favour of lowering tuition fees. In fact, 95.9% of the almost 800 of you who filled out our questionnaire stated that you wanted to see a reduction in the price of tuition. What was surprising, and more than a little disconcerting, were your responses to the question about debt load upon graduation. Over 51% of you who answered that question will be graduating with a debt load of over \$20,000. This includes 18% who will be



**LUKE NORTON**  
SGA PRESIDENT

finishing their current studies at Laurentian with a debt of over \$40,000.

This is a very discouraging number. As one of those who will be graduating from Laurentian with a debt of around \$24,000, I am aware that tuition fees in Ontario will most likely be going up again next year. Yet there is

still work that you can do to ensure this is not the case. One of those avenues, of course, is using your voice in the upcoming federal election.

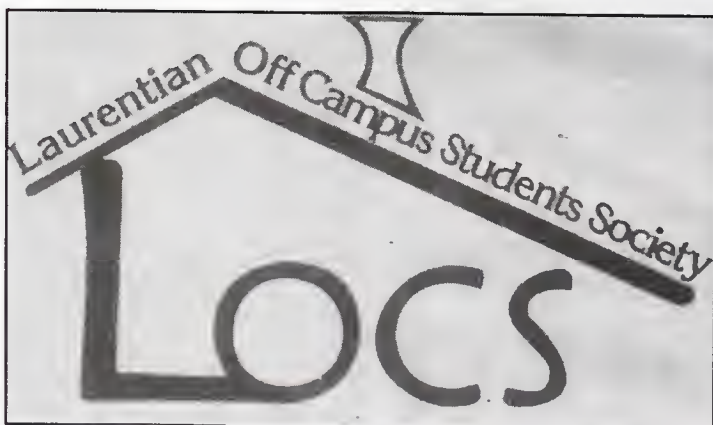
If you've turned on a television to a Canadian channel at any point over the last week, you probably couldn't help but notice the fact that another election is looming. Now, education falls under the jurisdiction of the provincial governments for the most part, the federal government does play a role. Aside from the deal made between the Liberals and the NDP to keep the government alive during May, Paul Martin has also promised to establish a dedicated payment transfer to the provinces specifically for post-secondary education. This system has yet to be established, so it is up to us to push the candidates across the country to take up education as an issue.

Of course, there is much more to a federal election than

just education. The state of the environment, our health care system, economy, social justice programs, industry, and at the risk of waxing poetical, the continued advancement of our society towards the ideal of a just society. It is important that we all take a hard look at the state of our country, and to find out where the politicians who wish to lead us are aiming it to go.

If all this politics is making your head spin, well than at least you can rest assured that the SGA/AGE is trying to keep you entertained as well! This Thursday, December 1st, we will be bringing in guest performer Norman Nawrocki, a comedian, musician, and sex educator. He will be performing his one-man show "Lessons From a 7ft Penis." This show is guaranteed to be a pretty wild and interesting show, so if you catch this paper before it's over, swing on down to the PubDownunder and catch the show.

## Happy Holidays from LOCS council



### SPACE FOR RANT

Something eating away at the back of your mind that you just absolutely feel you need to share with others? Well, that's what this space is for. In the proud Lambda tradition, Space For Rant is back for another year. We invite readers of our publication the opportunity to speak their mind on the issues that affect us all.

Didn't like something you read in Lambda? Fire away! Frustrated with one of the many issues going on around campus? That's why we're here. Space For Rant is your space... the reader's space... to have your say and share your message with a broader audience.

Well all, this is my last message to all of you this year. First, let us talk about the Christmas bash that we had at Swiss Chalet and Dooley's. To those of you that missed it, too bad for you. Fun was had by all. In an interview with LOCS member and volunteer Theresa Burden said that the event "was the most fun I've had all year."

Alright, enough about the past and on to better things. Remember that the hockey night and tournament are coming up

and also the LOCS formal. Keep an eye out for the posters that will be up as well as more information on these and other exciting LOCS events.

Okay, that is all for me for this year. Have a great holiday and a Happy New Years all. I am sure that you have all heard this a million times and most likely will not read this with any care, but none the less here it is. Stay safe, don't drink, and drive and all that jazz! Later all.

F.C Silman

There is only one catch: Lambda reserves the right to edit your submissions in keeping with libel law, so please try to avoid slandering or maliciously attacking anyone within these pages. Follow that one simple rule, and the sky is the limit.

So how exactly do you submit a piece for Space For Rant... it's easy! Email us at lambda@laurentian.ca, call us at (705) 673-6548, or drop us a letter in the mail at SCE 301 Student Centre, Laurentian University, Sudbury, ON P3E 2C6.

Remember: Lambda is the voice of the students. Make sure your voice is heard.



# CAMPUS NEWS

## Sue Johanson talks sex with students

ROBIN CROWDER  
A&E EDITOR

There's nothing like a woman your grandmother's age fondling a microphone to give you the shivers. However, that's exactly the feeling Sue Johanson attributes much of her success to.

"I'm not some cute little thing telling children to go out and have sex," she says, pretending to flip her hair around. "I'm viewed as safe, plus I have credibility and intimidation! That's why I've had such a generally positive reaction."

And positive it certainly has been, as was demonstrated by the 200 some students who packed the Pub Downunder on Thursday, November 17th for Sue's annual visit. They laughed, they cheered – they most likely squirmed – but in spite of it all, they probably learned something.

For over 20 years, Sue Johanson has been educating youth about penises, vaginas and above all, safe sex. Her legacy began back in the 70s when she opened the Don Mills Collegiate Birth Control Clinic – a completely free and anonymous clinic where teens could come with a variety of needs and problems.

"It was the first of its' kind in Canada," Johanson says proudly. "And the things they would ask me! It was then that I realized these kids weren't getting the sexual education they needed, but they sure were having sex – and lots of it!"

So despite already being a registered nurse, Johanson went back to school, taking courses mainly south of the border that just weren't available in Canada. Looking back, she now sees the irony because, since George Bush came to power, schools in the United States offer no sexual education at all. They receive minimal funding only to promote abstinence and to talk about sexually transmitted diseases from the "fear this" point of view.

It was in 1984 that Johanson was approached by Toronto rock radio station, Q107 about doing a call-in show. Until then, she had only been traveling the region, giving talks and educating in high schools, but "The Sunday Night Sex Show" proved to be amazingly successful for over 14 years. In 1985, she submitted a proposal to the Rogers Cable network and another legend was born. Eleven years later, the show went national with the Women's Television Network and, since 2002, has been airing on Oxygen.

With her popularity in Canada, Johanson eventually began doing a call-in show only for Americans, which she feels has really opened her eyes to the continuing need to promote open sexual discussions in that country. "I had a letter from one viewer – and these are his words, not mine – that said: My girlfriend is knocked up so if we have lots and lots of sex, could I have twins? I mean, hello! The kids down there know almost nothing."

As strange, and sad, as that letter was, Johanson concedes it's definitely not the most peculiar.

"I once had someone call in and ask if it was okay for a man to masturbate into peanut butter – I asked whether it was crunchy or smooth!" she laughs.

But while she loves to joke around on air, Johanson still treats every question with equal integrity.

"I'm always very straight. Even if the person asking is asking it as a joke, I know that there is someone out there for who it really is a valid question, so it's important to be respectful."

Johanson notes that as the times have changed, so have the callers and their questions.

"Back when I started the show and someone called in with a question about anal sex, I was like – you want to do what?! But now it's more common. Kids are much more

knowledgeable these days and I don't get as many out of the blue questions. I admit that sometimes I don't know the answer, but I always consult with the doctors or therapists tied to the show and address the issue at the beginning of the next episode."

Johanson's call screeners work hard to balance the calls she takes on air, so that a variety of issues are being addressed from all ages, sexes and sexual preferences. With homosexuality becoming more accepted in society, Johanson fields many more calls on that subject matter, and a surprisingly high number from the US she says.

"It's not accepted as easily down there, but they still have a lot of questions. Callers know that even though I'm straight, I'm still gay positive."

Being positive is certainly a trait that embodies Sue Johanson and the influence she has had on the sexual education of youth. In 2001 she received the Order of Canada in recognition of her lifetime contribution to her country: Not bad for a woman who spends her days talking about penises, vaginas, condoms and vibrators..



Robin Crowder / LAMBDA

Sue Johanson paid a visit to Laurentian on Thursday, November 17th to talk with students about sex, at an event hosted by the SGA/AGE in the Pub Downunder.



Neil Zacharjewicz / LAMBDA

Scads of students turned out to participate in the SGA/AGE's 'Naughty Bingo,' which featured sex toys for prizes. The event was one of several events put on as part of AIDS Awareness Week at Laurentian.



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## News

*Student who have not picked up their opt-out cheques for the Health Insurance Plan can now do so at the SGA/AGE office.*

*The SGA/AGE office will be closed for the holiday season effective December 9th. It will re-open again on January 3rd.*



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Secrets of the Bedouin Soundclash

ROBIN CROWDER  
A&E EDITOR

On Sunday November 20th, Bedouin Soundclash rolled into Sudbury for the third time in their musical career. Shot into the mainstream music fame with their hit single "When the night feels my song," the group played a sold out show to fans, new and old, at the Townhouse Tavern. Before the show, I had the chance to sit down and chat with lead vocalist and guitar player, Jay Malinowski:

**Robin Crowder:** I was reading yesterday that you guys made number 1 on Much Music – I think it was yesterday actually.

**Jay Malinowski:** Yes, yes it was.

**RC:** So congratulations.

**JM:** Thank you.

**RC:** That must be a pretty good feeling.

**JM:** Yeah, it's great. It's really nice. It been about 2 years since the songs release and so it's awesome especially on Much Music, it's amazing that our song, on mainstream media, has done so well.

**RC:** When did you guys actually start out? I know you're a pretty new band.

**JM:** We started out in 2000, late 2000. We all met at school, at university, in our first year at Queens. We started our band in first year and just kept doing it and doing it and doing it, then graduated just last year in 2004. We've been doing it full time since then. I don't know – it depends on how you look at it, we haven't been full time that long, but we've been together for about five years now.

**RC:** Are you all from Kingston?

**JM:** I'm from Vancouver, Eon's from Pickering...

**RC:** Haha, I'm from Pickering.

**JM:** Haha, no way!

*[This is followed by a short discussion on how people from Pickering, Ajax or Whitby all have a huge rivalry and feel the need to "represent" whenever telling people where they're from – ie, "Yeah man, Pickering power!" Jay then asks where I went to high school and we learn that Eon and I went to the same school, though he graduated two years ahead of me.]*

**RC:** Where did you get the name Bedouin Soundclash?

**JM:** There's a record that I used to listen to, that came out in about '96, dub music. I was just starting to get into dub music and so it really left an impression on me. It's by Bawdi, an Israeli dub artist who lives in New York. He was using Bedouin instrumentation on it because growing up in Israel, he was exposed to a lot of Bedouins, and lived with them for awhile apparently. He started using some of their percussions on his record and called the record Bedouin Soundclash. When we first started playing, we had a hand drummer in our band and were making dub music, and we were just kind of like "this sounds like Bedouin soundclash." Then the name just kind of stuck.

**RC:** What is Bedouin exactly?

**JM:** Bedouins are like a nomadic Northern African – Middle Eastern tribe, they're really gypsies. Typically Bedouins live in tents and travel around the desert.

**RC:** Are they known for music at all?



Robin Crowder / LAMBDA

Eon Sinclair, bassist for the Bedouin Soundclash, warms up before the band's performance at the Townhouse. The Bedouin Soundclash were the feature act for the final evening of the Townhouse's annual 'Lost Weekend.'

**JM:** The have a strong musical culture, definitely. The reason we're called Bedouin has nothing to do with Bedouins, really. They are known for their poetry, though.

**RC:** Would you say that your music has a Middle Eastern influence, in light of that?

**JM:** No, none of it does. Like I said, none of it has anything to do with Bedouins at all. The name itself came from someplace that did, but we don't actually have anything to do with it. So it's kind of confusing I guess. We found it kind of confusing, but we just like it and it stuck. I think we kind of like that fact that it's...

**RC:** Unique?

**JM:** Yeah.

**RC:** When people read about your music, the sentence I've most often seen, describes it as a fusion of rock, reggae, punk and soul. Is this something you guys put out there, to kind of classify it, or is it a label the music industry has put on you?

**JM:** No, it's something that we usually say. See the thing is, I don't think that you can really classify our music. Each song kind of has its own thing and even within songs there are different parts of different genres put together. I think we've probably said that a million times, that it just draws together all the different kinds of music we listen to. We don't consider ourselves a specific type really, we have roots and all, but it's very different.

**RC:** When you started, did you set out to create something completely different?

**JM:** We didn't set out to have anything really, we set out to...well, first Eon and I were friends and we were just trading records. And then one day I walked by his room and he was playing bass, and I was like "Hey! You play bass!" So we started talking more about music, started trading more records, starting playing together – you know just to play, we weren't really interested in being a band. But there was almost this gap in our musical collections. We got to the point where realized there was a gap between the reggae music and the old punk. I'd be listening to hits from the Clash, and he'd show me bands from the more dance hall kind of side. So I think we just sort of saw the gap and wanted to fill it, and that's really why we started making the music we do. It wasn't really a set out thing, a "hey, let's do this" from the beginning...I guess we just kind of fell into it.

**RC:** For your single right now, "When the night feels my song", did you guys get to choose that?

**JM:** Yeah.

**RC:** Okay, so what made you pick it?

**JM:** We really liked the song. We thought it was a good song. *(laughs)*

**RC:** *(laughs)* Alright, simple!

**JM:** Well yeah, it was the last song on the record, it was a good song. And no one really tells us what to pick, we still decide what we want and we just thought it would be really good for our first single.

**RC:** Is that song a group compilation or does one of you do most of the writing?

**JM:** I write all the songs and then take them to the band and we all kind of make them "Bedouin." So I usually do the lyrics and the music first, but I'll have a rough idea of drums and bass patterns and everything. Then we all start work on it and arrange it, and then final thing is Bedouin Soundclash.

**RC:** Can I ask what the single song is about?

**JM:** Yeah sure! When I wrote it I was listening to a lot of country reggae – that's reggae from the country, not a blend of country and reggae –

**RC:** *(laughs)* I was going to say that would be an interesting mix!

**JM:** *(laughs)* Yes, which is different from the reggae in Kingston which is really "dred reggae," but this was more 70s country reggae which is based more about vocal harmonies based on the church and gospel. So I was listening to all of that and they have really rich vocal harmonies. And, the subject matter of the song is really spiritual...you know, just walking through the night and when the night finally feels my song, I'll be home...and sort of the allegory of it becoming dawn and day. It was supposed to be an uplifting thing; from being in a hard place to having something uplifting, like the light at the end of the tunnel.

**RC:** Do you feel that your second album differs a lot from your first album?

**JM:** Oh yeah. All the songs that we do are a sort of diary of what we're listening to. Like I said, we don't restrict ourselves to a category, there's no one thing that Bedouin Soundclash has to be. It's what ever sort of music we're all listening to at the time, that we're all taking in, always with the mentality of keeping it within what our sound is but trying to push that sound more. I'd say the second record is better written, it has better lyrics. The second one is also far more reggae.

**RC:** What about the third one coming out?

**JM:** Well the second one, we had a lot of jams on it, you know a lot of songs we really just worked out on the spot. This one I really wanted to do something, "us", as singer-songwriters. I wanted to show that music goes really deep for us, it's not just a sound – they're actual songs, more than a gimmick. So I wrote the entire record before I brought it to the group and I was really careful. I was listening to a lot of soca, and gospel and soul music...I think it's maybe a bit more "rootsy." But there's still a lot of reggae, I mean we always start out with having reggae as a basis for what we do. I don't know, I can't really describe but I think it's better than the second one for sure. I mean, it's always an improvement right?

**RC:** Have you picked out your next single yet?

**JM:** Yep we know what it's going to be.

**RC:** From the second album, or from the third?

**JM:** Oh from this album, the second single is going to be "Shelter".

**RC:** Nice. So you guys were just in the UK right?

**JM:** Yes

**RC:** And I was also reading something about, I don't know whether it was doing a collaboration or a recording, with some famous producers who had worked with U2?

**JM:** Right, in the UK we usually do a version of "New Year's Day," which is an old U2 song. We usually do a dub version of it, and people have come to really like it, and we thought it would be nice to release it in the UK in conjunction with our next single. They still release singles over there which they don't do here. So we worked with Steve Harris, whose done stuff with U2 like "Beautiful Day," and Ian Broudie who did the Coral CD. In the UK they're quite a big deal.

**RC:** Did you find it very different in the UK as opposed to here, like with the touring and the atmosphere?

**JM:** There is a difference; they take their music a lot more seriously there. It's really important for them to build the identity – like the identity of what you listen to is so important, right down to what you wear. I mean they take it very seriously, much more so than here. People here are more laidback, sort of "oh I like this, I like that." There, it seems much more precise: they like

*(continued on page 6)*



Robin Crowder / LAMBDA

Jay Malinowski, lead vocalist and guitarist for the Bedouin Soundclash, belts out a tune during a performance at the Townhouse. The Bedouin Soundclash were just one of several talented acts to take to the stage as part of the Townhouse's 'Lost Weekend,' November 18th, 19th and 20th.



# 'TIS THE SEASON...

## Seasonal celebrations around the world

BY ROBIN CROWDER  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

This season, Christmas is not the only holiday being celebrated by people around the globe, though in our predominantly Christian western world, it often takes precedence. In recent years, the issue of Christmas in the classroom has become more contested as our country becomes more multicultural. While Christmas is an important holiday and deserves teaching time, there are also a number of other festivals that should also have the right to be taught. After all, what harm can it do to open children's minds by promoting tolerance, understanding and acceptance of differences when it is they who will eventually be in charge of a very heterogeneous world?

To list all the religious and cultural celebrations at this time would take forever, and though no single one is more important than the others, here's a quick look at three of the larger, more common observances taking place this year:

**HANUKAH** (also known as Chanukah) December 26th – January 2nd, but changes yearly



Hanukah is the 2,000 year old, eight day long Jewish celebration also known as the Festival of Lights. These eight days mark the Jewish peoples' triumph over adversity and the freedom they generally know today, along with a celebration of God's glory. It is a time to share with family in feasts, games and prayer.

The story of Hanukah begins long ago when a Greek king attempted to conquer the Jewish people and convert them to multi-theism. When the Jews refused to comply, the king's soldiers attacked and pillaged the Temple in Jerusalem, even stealing the sacred menorah and snuffing the flame. Never before had the menorah's flame gone out. Even after the king returned to Greece, his soldiers stayed on and continued partying inside the temple, refusing to allow the Jewish people to enter for prayers. Finally, led by Judah the Maccabee, the people

camped outside the Temple in Jerusalem all winter. When the soldiers inside no longer had food or water left, the Jews attacked and reclaimed their freedom. One of their first tasks was to clean up the Temple and relight the menorah: despite having only enough oil to burn the lamp for one day, the flame continued to flicker for eight straight days.

It is for this reason that every year, usually starting December 26th, the Jewish people light a candle on the menorah at sundown for eight days. Today's menorahs actually have nine branches, the ninth being the shamash, which is used to light the other candles. Hanukah is celebrated all over the world as the Jewish people give thanks for the miracle in the Temple so long ago.

**KWANZAA** December 26th – January 1st



Kwanzaa is a non-religious holiday that originated in the United States in 1966 after the discouraging civil rights struggles by black people in the 1960s. Creator Maulana Ron Karenga felt that the best way to ensure long-lasting social change for African-Americans was to reacquire them with their cultural heritage and unite them in the spirit of family and community. Today, Kwanzaa is the fastest growing holiday celebration.

Like Hanukah, Kwanzaa begins on December 26th, but unlike the Jewish holiday, ends after seven days. During this week, the seven principles are put into action and every night, family members gather to light a candle and reflect upon the days' principle. In order the seven principles are unity (umoya), self-determination (kujichagulia), collective work and respon-

sibility (ujima), cooperative economics (ujamaa), purpose (nia), creativity (kuumba), and faith (imani). Together, their purpose is to reinforce a way of life that should be applied throughout the year.

Each of these seven principles is represented its own symbol, most of which are derived from traditional African harvest symbols. In fact, the Swahili word Kwanzaa actually means "first fruits of the harvest." On the 6th day of celebration, the biggest feast is held (karamu) as family members exchange gifts, read poems and drink from the unity cup. Kwanzaa is a celebration of thanks for the "good life," one's family, community, and heritage, as well as paying homage to the creator and the environment.

**RAMADAN** October 5th – November 4th, changes yearly



Ramadan is the Islamic month of blessing, marked by prayer, fasting, and charity. Because the Islam lunar calendar is 11 days less than the solar calendar, the celebration moves around every year and occasionally falls in December.

The focus of Ramadan is self-sacrifice and devotion to the Islamic god, Allah. It is believed that during this month in about 610 AD, Allah revealed the first verses of the Qur'an (the holy book) to a caravan trader wandering in the desert near Mecca: The wanderer, Muhammad, was contemplating his faith when he heard a voice from the sky telling him he had been selected to transcribe the words of Allah. For the next month, Muhammad found himself speaking and writing the

verses of what now compose the Qur'an.

At most mosques, one thirtieth of the Qur'an is recited at each nightly prayer (tarawih) so that when the month is over, the entire book will have been recited. Muslims also fast during this month (sawm) which includes neither eating nor drinking while the sun shines. Families tend to rise early each morning to partake in a meal before sunrise and then gather again at night for iftar, a meal to break the fast at night. Fasting is supposed to cleanse the body, practice self-control and remind Muslims about the suffering of others.

At the end of the month, the "Festival of Breaking the Fast" (Eid al-Fitr) is held, where friends and family gather in their finest clothes, decorate their homes and exchange gifts and treats. There is a sense of generosity and gratitude during this, one of the two most important festivals in Islam. Charity and good deeds are of special significance at the end of Ramadan, as Muslims share their blessings by feeding the poor and donating to the mosques.

## What's in a Nog?

### Holiday drinks that are fun for all

BY ROBIN CROWDER  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

It's that time of year again – the snow is falling, carolers are singing, Santa is "ho-ho-hoing" and that peculiar seasonal drink called Egg Nog has once again reappeared on your grocers' shelves. Each year, millions of Christmas crazed consumers eagerly snap up the drink as soon as it comes out, often leaving stores bone dry by the time December actually rolls around, however this year, I decided to question the tradition. What is a nog, exactly? Where does the tradition and desire to drink a nog come from? Why is egg nog translated to French as "chicken milk?" (In fact, that translation is one of the reasons I just can't bring myself to drink egg nog.) As it turns out, egg nog is nothing new and there are actually several stories as to its origins.

Egg nog literally means "eggs inside a little cup." It first appeared back in 17th century Britain as popular drink mainly among the upper class. By the 1800s it was popular on both sides of the Atlantic, each "world" with its own variety, and was generally considered a social drink. When people gathered their friends and family together, they would toast one another's health with this concoction, as was the tradition. Since people generally gathered in large groups during the holidays, the drink eventually became a treat for this time of year.

The egg nog we know today descends from a hot British drink called "posset" which consisted of eggs, milk and strong ale. The word nog is actually an old slang for a very strong ale, or beer, so hence the name Egg Nog. It is also thought that perhaps the term comes from the fact that the drink was generally served in a "noggin" – a small, carved wooden mug. In Colonial America, rum – or grog – was cheaper and more abundant than ale, and so was more commonly used for the alcoholic addition. Some stories say that the term Egg Nog evolved from a fusion of "eggs'n'grog", as the New Worlders initially called it.

At some point, sugar and spices were also added to the well-traveled recipe, and it was often served with whipped cream. In a traditional egg nog recipe, the eggs remain raw, however most cartons sold in the grocery stores today tend to boil the drink for health and safety reasons. So if you're in the mood for a very old tradition and your grocery store shelves are empty, try this recipe to cook up your own batch of holiday cheer:

You will need:

6 large eggs  
2 cups milk (whole for a creamier taste, skim for a lower fat drink)  
1/3 cup sugar  
1/2 cup spiced rum (or substitute brandy or bourbon)  
1 tsp vanilla  
nutmeg sprinkles to top

#### Directions:

- beat eggs; in a large sauce pan, mix with milk and sugar over medium heat.
- continue cooking and stirring until mixture coats the spoon.
- place pan in a sink filled with ice water to cool quickly; stir in rum and vanilla.
- chill 4 to 24 hours; served topped with whipped cream and nutmeg if you like.

Egg Nog has a number of different varieties around the world, each using different alcohols and calling it by a different name. In Germany, the drink is served with ale and is called "biersoupe." One of the most popular version is the Puerto Rican "coquito" which combines the traditional drink with an essence of coconut. If you are in the mood for something a little more tropical, give this recipe a try – but be warned, this is not for the faint stomach, as the eggs in this drink remain raw.

You will need:

1 cup coconut milk  
1 cup sweetened condensed milk  
1 cup evaporated milk  
1 cup white rum  
1 cup water  
3 cinnamon sticks  
4 eggs, well beaten (preferable to use only the yolks, but not entirely necessary)

#### Directions:

- combine the three milks and rum in a blender
- boil the water with the cinnamon sticks; allow to cool to room temperature, then discard sticks
- add water and eggs to milk mixture; blend well.
- chill and refrigerate until ready to serve; top with nutmeg if you like.



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Thornloe goes south for the winter

ROBIN CROWDER  
A&E EDITOR

In the midst of the winter's first real snow, the audience inside Thornloe Theatre escaped the cold and traveled south: straight down to Hazelhurst, Mississippi and back into the 70s. It was here that they were met by the Magrath sisters in a humorous and touching play.

Crimes of the Heart, written by Beth Henley and directed by Thornloe's Valerie Senyk, tells the story of three very different sisters, reunited to wait out the news of their elderly grandfather's health, while trying to each come to terms with their own issues. Facing their troubles through sad and hilarious outbursts, the characters capture the audience members' hearts and pull them into the intimate details of their lives.

This production brings a few Thornloe veterans back to the stage, as well as introducing a number of new faces to the line. Playing the eldest sister Lenny, Sarah Gartshore returns for another season in a truly captivating portrayal of a lonely, just-turned-30, sweet Southern lady. Gartshore dons the burdens of her character as if they were her own with a remarkably consistent and believable Mississippi accent.

Also returning to the stage Stephanie Woolger, takes on the role of the youngest sister, Babe. Poor Babe has been accused of shooting her husband – which she freely admits that she did – but it is the circumstances surrounding the crime that contribute to the comedic tone of the play. Woolger is adept at displaying the anguish, confusion and innocence of the 24 year woman, and reaps the rewards of many chuckles from the audience as she easily flips the switch to a much more seductive

Babe for one scene.

Finally, in his second Thornloe stage appearance, Neal Pearson assumes the role of Doc Porter, the eager to please Southern man forever corrupted by middle sister Meg.

Meg Magrath, played by first year Theatre Arts Student Tianni Nori, is the most flamboyant of the sisters, having left Hazelhurst for Hollywood long ago. She comes home after a cryptic telegram from Lenny, and her appearance throws not only her sisters, but the townspeople for a loop. She is funny, charming, enviable and despicable all at once as a typical middle child clamoring for attention, and is masterfully portrayed by the talented Nori.

Also a first year student, Lindsay VanOort plays priggish cousin Chick Boyle and succeeds in connecting with the audience on a very human level – there was likely not a spectator who didn't want to strangle her character.

Finally, third year student Torren Sylvain is funny and naïve as the young lawyer bent on acquitting Babe and winning a personal vendetta. Sylvain astutely picks up on the awkwardness of a young man coming into his own, and has the audience rooting for the good guy.

Crimes of the Heart provided for yet another enjoyable evening of Thornloe Theatre, and the cast and crew deserve more than just a round of applause.

While the actors worked hard to hold the audiences' attention, the crew provided them with a beautiful set, accurate lighting and strong stage positioning to do so. As the author's dialogue tugs at the heart strings and tickles the funny bone, it is the talented young cast that drives it all home.

## Secrets of the Bedouin Soundclash

(continued from page 4)

Motown and ska, or some people only like electronica, and they take it all really seriously. But I think it's really cool because you'll see 40 or 50 year olds who really like the clash still coming out to see new bands that sound like the clash, really upholding the torch you know. I don't think people really do that here, once they get to about 30 they don't care about music anymore. They're more like "Oh, I'll just listen to the hot AC channel and buy my music at Starbucks," whereas people don't do that over there.

**RC:** What are some of the best experiences you've had while touring, your favourite venues or favourite shows that you've played?

**JM:** One of my favourite shows we ever played was at Lee's Palace in Toronto. Just the energy of the room was amazing. We were sort of at a point where it was the underground thing we had been working at for so long was at a perfect time to meet with this show, and all the people there were still "small." We didn't really have our single out yet but the Edge 102.1 was starting to pick it up and so it was all fans who had been with us for so long. It was a real sense of community at that show, and it was sold out. It was mayhem. So that was one of my favourite shows. A memorable show was playing at the Gorge at Warped Tour in Oregon, right after the Transplants played on the main stage. We were the sunset band that day. I don't know if you've ever been to the Gorge, but it's almost like a natural amphitheatre on the edge of the Grand Canyon, in Oregon. So there's this massive canyon behind the stage, it's like a huge cliff basically, and the sunsets into the canyon. It's a really spiritual sort of vibe and that was just amazing to play on that stage. We were pretty, how do you say, taken by the whole experience.

**RC:** What about the strangest experience?

**JM:** What's starting to happen now I guess....

**RC:** (laughs) Coming to Sudbury, yeah, I should warn you!

**JM:** (laughs) No no, we've been here before. We've played here twice actually, in this venue. Nothing's changed one bit let me tell you, so we knew what we were getting into. But, expectations people are having of us

know, it's just kind of interesting how things are shifting from being an underground band to being number one on Much Music. And people who are just coming to the band think we should be something different than we are in the sense that they think we should be bigger or more famous, and uh, we're not. So I find we have these strange situations...like we played in show in Hamilton and I had about 8 security guards all around me, as if I was going to get rushed by somebody. And that's just so not the type of band we are...and I mean, who the hell is going to rush me anyways, so there's strange experiences like that. We've had a lot, though, because we've toured so much. Any tour you do across Canada is so different.

**RC:** Well there are so many different people from BC all the way out to the East Coast, just so many types of people right.

**JM:** Oh yeah, and imagine going through the states as well. That change and you have different stratospheres, like the Deep South. In Canada, it's just like going from Seattle to New York – you get the top, but in the US it's not just that. You've got from going from LA to Texas to Alabama to New York, so many different places. It's really strange to see all that kind of stuff on the ground, to not just fly over it but to actually see it, see how things change.

**RC:** Okay, so last question, if you take into account the fact that you guys have been around for about five years and you've already had a pretty good amount of success, where do you hope to be in the next five years?

**JM:** I always hope that we're still excited about what we're doing, that our hearts are still in the same place, that we're still relevant. That I think is the biggest thing, that's the most important, is that the music we make is still relevant to us. That was something we felt needed to be done to hypnotize the music, especially in Canada. I hope that in five years, well I don't really want to be on the road touring, I hope that we can sit at home for a bit. Enjoy ourselves a bit, but I also hope that we're still making music that is relevant.

**RC:** Well, those are all my questions, so thank you very much.

**JM:** Thank you.

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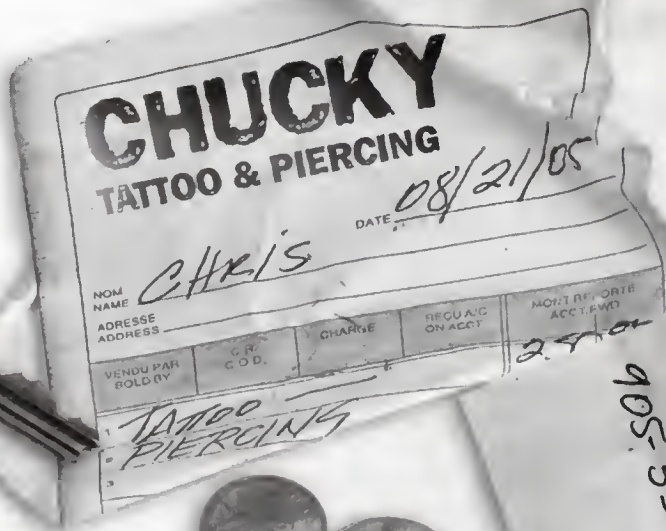
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# SPORTS

## Lady Vees B-Ball team scores two wins on the road

DEREK RENZINI  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Laurentian Lady Vees basketball team is quickly maturing and making a name for themselves in the OUA.

Embarking on their second road trip of the regular season, Laurentian found themselves up against the Ryerson Rams and the University of Toronto Blues last weekend.

On Friday night, the Lady Vees soundly defeated the Ryerson Rams 73-64. Outplaying the Rams for the majority of the game, Laurentian led by as much as 17 points before watching their lead slowly slip away as it dipped down to the single digits.

However, in the end, the Lady Vees proved to be too much for the Rams, clamping down collectively as a team to hold on for the win.

All-Canadian Cassandra Carpenter led the team in scoring with 19 points and 6 Rebounds, while Christi Bauck added 16 points and 8 rebounds. Ashley MacSporran also contributed 16 points and showcased her shooting touch by going 3-4 from three point land.

Carrying their energy into Saturday night, the Lady Vees defeated the University of Toronto Blues 78-68. Laurentian fought off the gritty Blues by controlling the paint and out rebounding their opponent. They used their size and strength to continually get to the foul line and control the tempo of the game.

Cassandra Carpenter once again made a statement, showing why she is an All-Canadian caliber player. Carpenter finished the game with an astonishing 35 points, 10 rebounds and 7 assists. She shot 21-28 from the foul line, tying the unofficial OUA and CIS record for free throws scored. Also, Ashley MacSporran, once again showed her shooting abilities, and netted 4 baskets from behind the arc for 12 points.

"All in all it was a really good effort," said head coach Mike Clarke. "Different people stepped up when we needed them to, and it ended up in a big win."

With these two road wins, the Lady Vees improve their regular season record to 4-3, putting them over .500 for the first time this season. They are currently in 3rd place in the OUA East, behind York and Queens.

The Lady Vees travel to Ottawa this weekend to play the Ottawa Gees Gees and Carleton Ravens before leaving for sunny Fort Myers, Florida and their Christmas break training camp.



Neil Zacharjewicz / LAMBDA

The annual SGA/AGE Funspiel was held on Saturday, November 19th, with numerous teams turning out for hours of fun at the Copper Cliff Curling Club. The winners of this year's competition was the rink featuring (from left to right, front row) Ashley Foster, Melanie Morrisette, Riley Roy, (back row) Niklas Roy and Austin Roy.

## LU's Intramural Corner

BY MELISSA WALKEM  
INTRAMURAL  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

### Up Coming Intramural Events

As the first semester comes to an end, Laurentian University's Intramural Program are winding down. Thanks to all those that participated this semester in Outdoor Soccer, Beach Volleyball, Men's Basketball, Women's Basketball, 4x4 Volleyball and Doubles Badminton.

Just a reminder that second semester Intramurals registration is already underway. Indoor Soccer registration is full, however there are still spaces available in Men's, Women's and Coed 3x3 Basketball. Registration can be done in the Ben Avery Building's Active Living Office, B-226 between the hours of 9am and 4pm Monday to Friday (closed for lunch from 12pm-1:15pm). Game Schedules are available in the Intramural Office B-227.

The following registration will begin in the New Year:

Coed Volleyball -  
Registration: Jan 9 - Jan 13, 2006.

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Innertube Waterpolo-  
Registration: Jan 16 - Jan 20, 2006.  
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Water Basketball-  
Registration: Jan 16 - Jan 20, 2006.  
8 teams, \$20/team

Start making teams now, sign up soon and come out to have some fun. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Intramural office at 675-1151 ext 1018 or 1082 or email us at [intrasport@laurentian.ca](mailto:intrasport@laurentian.ca).

We wish you all good luck on your exams and have a safe and happy holiday season.

### Intramurals and Battle of the Best

Human Kinetics students will now be excited to know that Battle of the Best (BTOB) now includes

Intramural Sports. Any SPED, HEAL, EDPH, SPPS, KINS or ADVL students that participate in the following Intramural sports will be awarded points for their program.

Coed 3x3 Basketball  
Coed Volleyball  
Coed Innertube Waterpolo  
Coed Water Basketball

Note that Coed Indoor Soccer registration finished, however HK students participating will still receive points.

Registration can be done in the Ben Avery Building's Active Living Office, B-226 hours of operation are 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday and is closed for lunch from 12pm-1:15pm.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Intramural office at 675-1151 ext 1018 or 1082 or email us at [intrasport@laurentian.ca](mailto:intrasport@laurentian.ca).

## Voyageurs basketball squad sinks to 3-4 on the season

DEREK RENZINI  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Laurentian Voyageurs men's basketball team's season has been going so far this year could in some ways be compared to a roller coaster ride: it has been filled with many ups and downs.

The Voyageurs, who have been unable to put together consecutive wins this regular season, rode their 2-3 record to Toronto last weekend for their second road trip of the season.

On Friday night, the men's team squared off against a determined Ryerson Rams squad and managed to come away with a 67-55 victory. The Voyageurs key to success proved to be the ability of their big men to dominate the offensive and defensive glass, out rebounding the Rams 40-28.

High scorers for Laurentian were fourth-year center, Ben Palmer, who once again put on a powerful performance with 22 points and 9 rebounds and Matt Brown, who shot 7-11 from the floor for 19 points. Also, first year player Jesse Piercey added 12 points and 9 rebounds.

Hoping to ride the momentum from their last win into Saturday night's contest against the University of Toronto Blues, the Laurentian Voyageurs battled hard, but in the end came up short, losing 62-49.

The Voyageurs had few answers for the Blues tenacious defence which generated many unforced turnovers and caused them to take numerous low percentage shots.

Trailing 31-20 at halftime, Laurentian was unable to put together any significant scoring runs and ultimately could not match U of T's intensity at both ends of the court.

Matt Brown once again scored in the double digits, finishing the game with 16 points and 3 rebounds. Darrel Drake also contributed 11 points, 4 rebounds and 2 assists in the losing effort.

The Laurentian Voyageurs men's basketball team now falls to 3-4 on the season, and are currently sitting in 5th place in the OUA East; only 2 games behind the 4th place University of Toronto Blues.

"We could easily be 5-2 right now," admits Head Coach Virgil Hill, referring to the fact that his team has lost some extremely close games, "but at times, our inexperience shows".

Laurentian hits the road again this weekend to play the only undefeated OUA East Teams: the Ottawa Gees-Gees and two-time defending champions, the Carleton Ravens.

They will then depart for a tournament in Vancouver, British Columbia, which will be played over the Christmas holidays.

"The tournament will be great experience for us, and we will have a chance to compete against some of the top ranked teams in Canada," said Hill.



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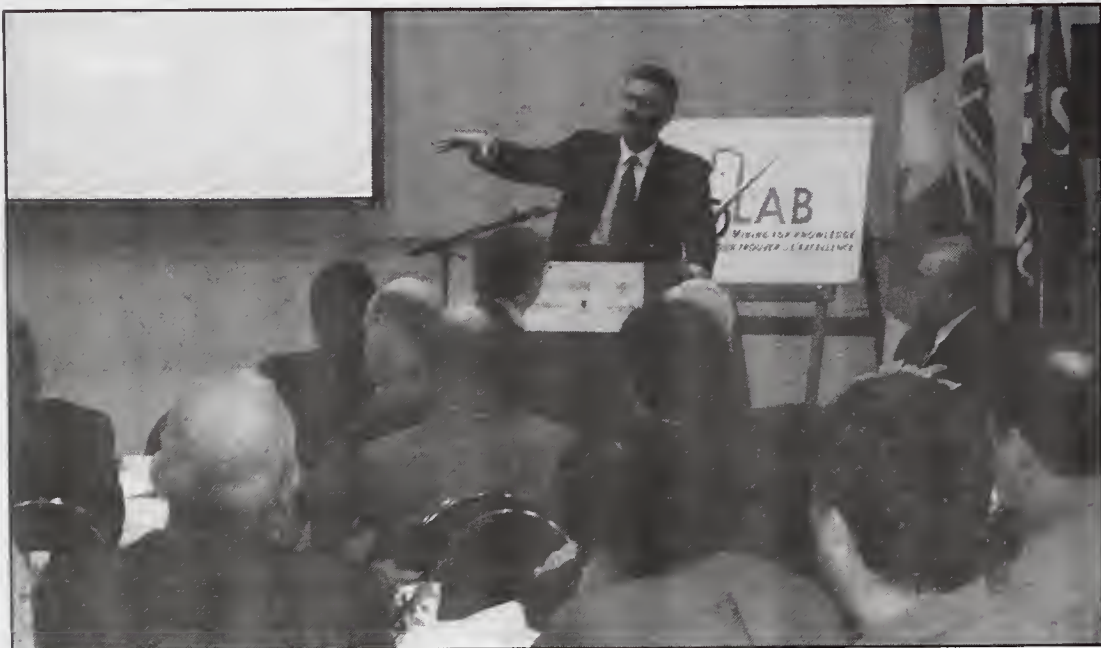
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## SNOLAB partners open newly expanded facility

(continued from front page)

can collect data that provides revolutionary insight into the properties of neutrinos and the core of the sun. Experiments in SNOLAB will measure the fundamental properties of neutrinos and look for Dark Matter particles, which are believed to make up 25 percent of our universe.

The study of neutrinos is a challenging field. The sun provides trillions of them each second but very few can be detected on earth. Since these tiny, almost massless particles rarely interact with other forms of matter, and can pass through physical objects unhindered, SNOLAB's exceptional underground environment enables very low rates of neutrinos to be observed without other competing background effects.

Scientists have long been perplexed by the neutrinos and so the new lab represents many promising things. It is not only a research laboratory, but also a training facility for university groups. Graduate students from Laurentian, Guelph, Queen's, Carleton, the University of British Columbia and l'Université de Montréal are key members in a number of experiments that could be located in SNOLAB. Researchers will have access to state-of-the-art work space and computers to analyze data that will enable significant progression in neutrino observation by addressing critical questions such as the origin and evolution of the universe.

"The fine new facility is a testament of the fruitful partnership and collaboration of all the university partners and funders," says Dr. Atkinson, President of Carleton University.

The Sudbury Neutrino Observatory represents a commitment, not only by the scientific community, but by many partners at various levels. The research and innovation has been made possible by the generous site donation from Inco Ltd.

The project has also had many other financial contributors. The underground laboratories are funded by the International Joint Venture program of the Canada Foundation for Innovation which has supplied a \$38.9 million grant. A total of \$10.4 million in grants has been provided by the Ontario Innovation Trust, the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation, FedNor, and Canada Foundation for Innovation. As well, the City of Greater Sudbury has also contributed to SNOLAB by providing a 5-year, \$125,000 grant for public education and publicity of new developments.

SNOLAB is only one phase

of many in the advancement of astrophysics research. There is a shared passion about the direction of neutrino research and scientists anticipate getting more profound answers on the tiny particles that defy the fundamen-

tal laws of physics by continuing to expand the means for research. The initial pilot project has become a permanent fixture deep beneath our feet and will only continue to expand.

Laura Therrien / LAMBDA

(Left) Sudbury Mayor David Coutremanche addresses the many people who turned out to take part in the grand opening of the SNOLAB research facility. The project involved the construction of a new 33,000 square foot building as an extension on the existing research facilities at Creighton Mine. SNOLAB is the deepest laboratory in the world, and a joint project by a number of universities including Laurentian. The purpose of the lab is to study neutrinos.

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